

04 points on the carrier, while another part of the eluate is simultaneously diverted through a mass spectrometer or an NMR spectrometer or an IR spectrometer for spectroscopy.

07 24. (Amended) Method according to Claim 20 [or 21], characterized in that the chromatographic separation of the mixture of substances into single substance zones takes place by thin-layer chromatography or electrophoresis on the carrier, and spectra are recorded from the single substance zones by MALDI mass spectroscopy or raman spectroscopy or other spectroscopic methods such as UV-VIS or IR before the carrier is covered with the sensor layer.

25. (Amended) Apparatus for detecting the biological effect of substances consisting of a sensor layer according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 11] which is in contact with the sample to be assayed, and of an imaging system in whose detection zone a part or whole of the sensor layer is located.

Remarks

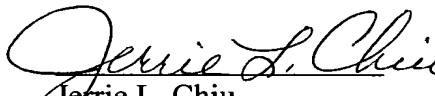
By way of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 3, 5, 7-12, 14-17, 20, 22, 24, and 25 have been amended to remove multiple claim dependencies. Additionally, Applicants note that the priority copy of the application contains a typographical error on page 2 at line 23. On page 2 at line 23 of the priority document, "EP 588 319" should read "EP 588 139." This typographical error has been corrected in the specification of the present application on page 2 at line 12.

Applicants believe that the subject matter of the pending claims is patentable and that the instant application should accordingly be allowed. If the Examiner believes that a conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (203) 812-3964.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 17, 2000

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